

**ATHLETIC POLICIES  
BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY #170**

**Statement of Philosophy**

We believe that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total curriculum of High and Middle Schools. It is our goal to develop and conduct an athletic program that is consistent with the philosophy of education of Bushnell-Prairie City #170. It is believed that in order to have a sound, well-rounded athletic program the following statements must be part of our overall philosophy:

- Athletics must be for all boys and girls who are physically able to participate.
- Athletics must be educational and must
- Contain desirable learning experiences
- Fit harmoniously in the overall educational program
- Be controlled by the established local & state authorities
- Have leadership by certified personnel as sanctioned by I.H.S.A and I.E.S.A
- Athletics should promote
- Improvement of health and happiness
- Development of physical skills
- Emotional skills development
- Showing of social competence
- Displaying of high moral values
- Encouragement of a sense of co-operation
- Expression of spirit of competition
- Development of self-control
- Understanding of democratic processes
- Realization of the values of group goals
- Judgment on the ability of an athlete should be based on what the participant can do, not who he/she is socially, ethnically or economically.
- Middle school athletic program should always be instructional with the emphasis on physical development, skills, social experience and good sportsmanship.
- Varsity athletic program will be treated as a competitive event. The goal of the varsity program is to field the most competitive team possible.
- Students may not participate in more than one sport at a time.

**Responsibilities of Participants**

The privilege of participation in our athletic program is extended to boys and girls, providing they are willing to assume certain responsibilities. The athlete's greatest responsibility is to be a credit to yourself, your parents, your school, and your community. Therefore, the following is required:

- Display high standards of acceptable social behavior. Failure to do so will result in discipline from head coach.
- Display outstanding sportsmanship:
- Pay proper respect to our flag
- Pay proper respect to your opponent
- Pay proper respect to your game officials
- Pay proper respect to your coaches and teammates.
- Athletes should remember that they are students first and athletes second.

**Guidelines for Eligibility**

Bushnell-Prairie City School District is a member of the Illinois Elementary School Association, and the Sand Valley Conference. In order to represent the cooperative in any interscholastic competition, a student must:

- Meet all eligibility rules of the I.E.S.A as well as those of the school district. (see Academic Eligibility Policy).

- All students must pass all course work in order to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Turn in a physical examination card to the coach or office
- Meet the requirements for insurance (Purchase or signed waiver)
- *A student may not participate nor practice until both insurance and physical requirements are met*
- Have the student handbook signature card signed by parent or guardian and athlete before competing
- Sign the drug testing consent/authorization form before competing
- No player will be allowed to ride the bus to games without their medical release form.

### **Weekly Academic Eligibility**

Bushnell-Prairie City requires the following academic eligibility requirements for extra-curricular; passing work in all credit hours of schoolwork per eligibility period.

Passing work shall be defined as work of such a grade that if on any given date a student should transfer to another school, passing grades for the courses would immediately be certified on the student-athletes' transcript to the transfer school.

Eligibility for the next week is determined on Thursday evening and coaches are notified. Suspension for grade ineligibility is in effect from Monday through Sunday of the following week. After three weeks of ineligibility, the student may be asked by the coach to resign from the team.

Only students who are currently eligible to participate in an interscholastic athletic contest shall appear at the contest in the uniform of their school. (IHSA 3.141)

Managers who are ineligible may not attend games during their ineligibility.

### **Duration of Athletic Policies: A Clarification**

- The guidelines included in this athletic policy are *in effect year round*
- Violations will be tabulated in each category for the "career" of the student-athlete. The student-athlete will have two careers: one in grades 5 through 8, and one in 9 through 12. After completing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade year, the student-athlete will, as with their GPA, begin a new "athletic career" with zero violations.
- A student in each cooperative participating school is considered an athlete from the point in his/her career in which he/she first became a participant, and continues until that career segment ends.
- When a violation occurs while a student-athlete is not in a season, the consequences will be administered during their next active participation. For the consequences to be served, a student-athlete must successfully complete the season in which the consequences are served.
- If a violation occurs during the student-athletes 5-8-career segment, the student-athlete will serve the consequences for his/her actions during his/her next active participation. These consequences could carry over to his/her 9-12 careers after which the student-athlete would be considered to have zero violations for that career segment.

### **Athletic Training Rules**

As athletes, you are leaders in your school and community. You are expected to set a good example in regard to conduct, personal grooming, and dress appropriate to time and place. Your actions and appearance represents your parents, school, athletic program, community, and you.

Training is a year-round proposition. Candidates for any team in the cooperative are expected to adhere to the following requirements before, during, and after the season, as well as during the summer months. Athletic PRIDE and the desire to maintain GOOD HEALTH HABITS make following these rules an easy task for athletes.

The coaching staff, administration and board of education developed this Athletic Training Handbook. *To be considered in violation of this handbook, a student-athlete must be personally observed, or admits guilt to a violation (forthright clause).*

The student-athlete in violation of training rules will not dress in the team uniform, but will be there on the sidelines in street clothes. This can carry over into the following sports season. Penalties will be carried into the following season, which he/she participates and will be calculated on a weighted percentage. Student must complete

the season in good standing in the sport where the consequences are being served in order for the consequences to count.

*Scheduled Contests for calculation of consequence means scheduled season games, plus guaranteed games of tournaments, plus the first game of the State series. Therefore an athlete found in violation later in the season could possibly lose the opportunity to play for the remainder of the season*

- **Participation Fee** - Bushnell-Prairie City CUSD #170 has adopted athletic participation fees as follows: \$30 per individual sport up to maximum of \$90 per individual student with a maximum per family of \$180. The participation fee for the current sport must be paid at the beginning of the season. **Athletes will not be given a uniform or allowed to participate in contests until the participation fee has been paid.**
  
- **Drugs, Alcohol, and Tobacco** - If you drink alcohol, use tobacco, use ecigarettes or vaping, or are guilty of use, sale, distribution, or possession of tobacco, alcohol, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, or look-a-like drugs, or are on the premises where you know underage drinking is taking place, the following will occur.  
*NOTE: failure to complete any aspect of this policy will result in an automatic suspension from any athletic activity until he/she satisfies the above requirements.*
  1. **First Offense** –
    - Have a conference with the head coach.
    - Complete added conditioning at the coach's discretion.
    - Miss 40% of scheduled contests rounded to the nearest whole #.
    - The athlete must agree to enter into and maintain eligibility in an evaluation program at a recognized institution, for the purpose of determining the extent of their substance problem. All costs associated with the evaluation, including counseling and /or substance treatment programs, will be the responsibility of the athlete and/or parents or legal guardian. Neither cooperative District shall assume financial responsibility for any portion of the evaluation, diagnosis, or treatment.
    - The athlete and parents/legal guardian must agree to have the athlete tested at each subsequent testing date for one calendar year at the expense of the athlete or parents/legal guardian.
      1. **Second Offense**
        - Be dismissed from the squad immediately. Will be denied participation in any sport for one calendar year from the date of the infraction.
        - Must reenter into an evaluation program, and then following treatment, may appeal this action to the Athletic Council to regain eligibility into athletics.
          1. **Third Offense**
            - This would also include a situation that would involve two or more sport seasons. Once a total of three is reached, the athlete will no longer be able to participate in cooperative athletics outlined in this policy.
  
  - **Citizenship Clause:** Students who are charged or arrested for any major traffic, conservation, or criminal code violation including, but not limited to, a felony, theft, battery, assault, vandalism, gang activity or any other violation that involves the potential of serious harm to persons or property will result in the following:
    1. The student will be suspended from all extra-curricular activities from one contest/activity to one calendar year depending upon the severity of the violation determined by the Athletic Council.
    2. The Athletic Council may add any supplementary suspension to a sport unit suspension of a drug or alcohol violation based upon the severity of the drug or alcohol offense.

*NOTE: Opting to take informal supervision or any other form of probation to avoid a criminal record will be considered for this policy as an admission of guilt.*

- **Missed Practice:** This means missing practice without contacting your coach before the practice
  1. **First Offense**
    - Complete added conditioning at the coach's discretion.
  1. **Second Offense**

- Conference with the head coach
  - Complete added conditioning at the coach's discretion.
  - Miss 20% of scheduled contests
1. Third Offense
    - Dismissed from the squad immediately.
    - **Curfew:** Sunday through Thursday – 10:00 p.m.  
Friday and Saturday – 11:30 pm.  
Night before a game or match – 10:00 p.m.

*NOTE: If accompanied by parents/legal guardian, this does not apply.  
If event requires more time, it should be arranged with the coach ahead of time.*
  1. First Offense
    - Conference with the head coach
  1. Second Offense
    - Benched in street clothes for the next event and complete added conditioning at the coach's discretion.
  1. Third Offense
    - Dismissed from the squad immediately.
  - **Quitting the Team (TEAM COMMITMENT)** – If an athlete decides to drop a sport, he/she will be expected to handle it as if they were terminating an employment. If this is not done in an acceptable manner, the athlete should realize that they are in danger of being refused the opportunity to participate in athletics for the remainder of that school year. The following procedure must be adhered to when terminating participation:
    1. Step One – by dropping a sport, the athlete forfeits the opportunity to win any awards
    2. Step Two – Procedure:
      - See both his/her coaches and the head coach of that sport and explain the reason for deciding that they will no longer participate.
      - Return any equipment that has been checked out.
      - Ask the head coach of the sport being dropped for permission to participate in additional sports in the school – providing there is interest in further participation.
      - The athlete cannot start a new sport until the regular season of the sport he has quit has ended.
  - **Flagrant Disregard of Discipline or Flagrant Disrespect**– Any act of harassment, outright insubordination or disrespect to coaches/staff/others, or any act deemed a safety situation as defined by each District's Code of Conduct.
    1. Immediate dismissal from the team and suspension from all athletic activities for one calendar year from the date of suspension.
      2. If the student-athlete wishes to participate in any additional sports, he will be expected to meet before the Athletic Council to explain his/her behavior and apply for reinstatement to the athletic program.
      3. The Athletic Council will make the final decision.
      4. Every head coach in each sport has the right and responsibility to discipline and/or drop a member from the squad for any flagrant violation of conduct not mentioned previously.
  - **Insubordination or Disrespect**- Acts such as, but not limited to serious judgment errors, deliberate unsportsmanlike conduct, disregard for the rights of others.
    1. Suspension from the team for the rest of the season
    2. Suspension of attendance privileges for home athletic events for the remainder of the season
    3. Suspension from the use of any athletic equipment [other than in PE class] for the remainder of the season.

- **Grooming for Athletic Competitors**

- Hair is to be out of eyes
- Hair is to be no longer than the bottom of the inner ear – the ear lobe shall be exposed
- When wearing a T-shirt, the hair must be off the collar
- Beards and mustaches would be shaved during the season of participation

*NOTE: the above-mentioned items are dealing in sports where boys are involved.*

- Earrings may be worn during the sport season, with the exception of days of games.
- The players grooming should not deviate from the rest of the squad; the judgment will be left up to the coach's decision.
- Tattoos are to be covered if visible.

**Forthright Clause:**

An athlete who is in violation of this athletic handbook has the opportunity to come forward and admit guilt to any coach or administrator for the offense, and thus a 10% reduction in the number of contests suspended will occur.

- The athlete will be given only until the conclusion of the next school day or 24 hours if school is not in session to come forth with this admission of guilt.
- This forthright clause is applicable one time only for any offense during an athlete's athletic career in the cooperative.
- If an athletic department member or administrator personally witnesses a violation, the forthright clause is invalid.

**Example:** A member of the girl's track team attended a party on Saturday night. She felt guilty about her committing the violation, so she approached her coach the following Monday and explained the situation. The result is a violation and a reduction in that penalty from 40% to 30%. If she had waited until Tuesday to come forth, the clause would be nullified and the full penalty would take place.

**Due Process: Athletic Council**

Any athlete may request to meet with the Athletic Council. The Council reserves the right to meet concerning any athletic code violation. Due to extenuating circumstances, the Athletic Council reserves the right to recommend a student-athlete for expulsion for a first offense violation for the use, possession, or sale of alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, or look-a-like drugs.

- The Athletic Council shall consist of the following people:
  1. Building Principals-both districts
  2. Athletic Directors-both districts
  3. Head Coach of each sport
  4. Coach to which the incident pertains
- The Athletic Council will rule on any situation not covered specifically in this handbook and allow the student-athlete an opportunity to receive due process in his/her situation.
- If a question arises concerning interpretation or enforcement of any portion of this policy, please contact the Athletic Director to set up an appointment to clarify the situation, or to schedule a meeting with the Athletic Council.

**Attendance/Absence from School**

A student must be in school attendance by 11:00 a.m. on the day of an athletic or extracurricular event. The student must be in attendance for the entire second half of that day. A prearranged absence (such as doctor appointments) can be excused.

**Non-Athletic Extracurricular Student Participants**

Student participants in all non-athletic events who are subject to the Drug Testing Procedure are also subject to the principles, policies, and actions denoted in this document. In cases of violations of this code by such participants in which the sanctions noted are purely athletic in nature, the coach/sponsor will assume responsibility for properly sanctioning the student participant. (By Illinois state 105ILCS 5/2-3.80, FFA programs are not considered as extracurricular programs.)

### **Release Form**

Student athletes are encouraged to ride the bus home from athletic contests. On those occasions, the parents request their son or daughter rides home with them, the following guidelines will be in effect.

A. The student athlete can only ride home with the parent. Special permission can be given only by the building principal.

B. Parents must sign their children out on the coach's sign out sheet.

### **Sportsmanship Code**

Our school will be working to improve sportsmanship throughout our athletic seasons. The values learned in athletic competition are the ones that last a lifetime. The positive actions by a coach, athlete, parent or spectator at an event can influence how our school is perceived in our community and the communities of those we meet on the field of play.

Unfortunately, in the past, we have had problems with sportsmanship from our fans. Therefore, we will be working to improve sportsmanship by establishing a sportsmanship code. Fans are encouraged to come and support their team.

What will not be tolerated this year:

1. Criticizing coach
2. Criticizing players
3. Singling out players through negative comments
4. Coaching from the stands
5. Constant negative criticism of officials
6. Using vulgar or obscene language

What is encouraged and promoted by the fans:

1. Positive support of the team
2. Encouraging players
3. Encouraging fair play and sportsmanship

Failure to comply with our sportsmanship code could result in being suspended or banned from our athletic contests, we are asking for your support in supporting good sportsmanship for the good of our programs and our athletics. To show our sincerity for our improvement of sportsmanship, we are requiring each parent to sign a commitment to improve sportsmanship. This must be signed and returned before your athlete can participate in any scheduled extracurricular contest.

### **Conferencing with the Coaches**

We welcome conferences with our coaching staff. There are certain areas of coaching that are the coach's prerogative and are not subject to conferencing. They are:

1. Coaching strategies
2. Substitutions
3. Playing time

The areas that the coaching staff will meet to discuss are:

1. Academic concerns
2. Player improvement
3. Sportsmanship

We encourage your athlete to see the coach first if there is a problem. If the problem continues then by all means meet with the coach. To set a conference with a coach the following guidelines are in effect.

1. No conference will be held on game day, especially after a game.
2. Appointments must be scheduled through the office.
3. When an appointment is scheduled, the reason for the conference must be stated.
4. Conference will be done individually, not as a group.

### **Bushnell Prairie City District #170 Drug Testing Program**

#### **Mission Statement**

Recognizing that observed and suspected use of alcohol and illicit drugs by Cooperative students is increasing, a program of deterrence will be instituted as a proactive approach to a truly drug free school. Likewise, through participation in athletics and the Illinois High School Association and the Illinois Elementary School Association state series, students using illegal drugs pose a threat to their own health and safety as well as to that of other students. The purpose of this program is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of all student athletes; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for student athletes to refuse to use illegal drugs; and (3) to encourage student athletes who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs. The policy is non-punitive. It is designed to create a safe, drug free environment for student athletes and to assist them in getting help when needed.

For the purpose of this program, the phrase "student athlete" will be referred to as student participant and shall include all sponsored individuals or teams that compete against other individuals or teams on an interscholastic basis. This program shall include, but not be limited to, all athletic teams at athletic cooperative schools, the cheerleader squads, speech teams, and all scholastic bowl participants.

#### **Definitions**

*Student Participant* – all students to whom this program applies by virtue of trying out for or joining a team.

*Sport Season* – fall, winter, and spring seasons begin on the first day of practice allowed by the I.H.S.A./I.E.S.A. and end when the team has completed its season. This policy will be in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

*Calendar Year* – a 12-month period from the date of occurrence.

*Illegal drugs* – all alcoholic liquor (as defined in 235 ILCS 5/1 – 3.05). All controlled substances under the Controlled Substance Act (720 ILCS 570/100T0682) except when prescribed by a licensed physician, and cannabis under the Cannabis Control Act (720 ILCS 550/IT05580/19).

#### **Drug Education Program**

All programs concerned with adhere to the following policy. Coaches will be responsible to report to the athletic director concerning the implementation of these policies.

- Every sport season must have a preseason meeting with parents and student participants to cover expectations of the coach and the student participant. Drug enforcement policy and regulations will be covered and a contract will be signed at this meeting or prior to the beginning of the current sports season.
- Every participating program is required to have a minimum of one drug education meeting per season.

#### **Procedures for Student Participants**

*Consent:* Each student wishing to participate in any interscholastic program, as outlined by this policy and the student participant's custodial parent or legal guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the cooperative's drug testing policy. Written consent shall be on the form attached to this policy. No student participant shall be allowed to participate in any interscholastic program without such consent.

*Selection:* All Student participants will be awarded a number and will be randomly selected on a lottery basis. Any student selected will have his/her number placed back into the pool after each test and will be eligible for the next random sampling. A minimum of 5% of the testing pool will be selected per testing date. A minimum of 8 dates will be scheduled throughout the school year and will not follow any recognizable pattern. Any student participant, who refuses to submit to a urine screen test, once selected, will be considered in violation of this policy and will be subject to the actions specified in this policy for "violations".

#### **Testing Pattern**

All testing will be done at the high school or the junior high during the school day. All dates will be confidential. Only the building principal and the testing company will know the dates.

Representatives from a board-approved lab will complete testing. The school will not be involved in the collection or handling of any samples but will serve only in a supervisory capacity, selecting and identifying students, reporting results to parents, and providing intervention for those who test positive. The testing area will be quarantined.

#### **Limited Access to Results**

Personnel administering testing or those contracted to perform lab urine tests will be authorized to report results only to the building principal. All drug test results are considered confidential information and will be handled accordingly.

#### **Non-Punitive Nature of Policy**

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the District shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified in writing in a language that they understand at least 72 hours before response is made by the District.

#### **Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries**

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

**BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #170  
DRUG TESTING POLICY  
CONSENT/AUTHORIZATION FORM**

I wish to try out for and or participate in school sponsored interscholastic activities. I have read the Board of Education's Interscholastic Drug Testing Policy for Student Participants and I understand and agree to the Board of Education's Policy and Procedures, including being randomly chosen for periodic drug testing, as a condition of participation in interscholastic athletic teams, on cheerleading squads, scholastic bowl, and Student Council. I understand that if I disobey the rules, I will be excluded from the opportunity to participate in these activities as provided in the Board of Education's Policy and Procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Participant Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Custodial Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #170  
MEDICAL RELEASE FORM FOR CONSENT TO TREATMENT OF MINORS**

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: (Cross out words which do not apply)

This is to certify that I/We, \_\_\_\_\_

(Print name(s) in full)

the **mother, father, legal guardian** of the person listed below, do hereby constitute and appoint staff members of Bushnell-Prairie City School District, Bushnell, Illinois my/our true and lawful attorney, solely, and with the power to authorize and consent to the administration of any anesthetic or medical treatment to, and the performance of whatever operations or removal of tissue decided to be necessary by the attending physician, on the below named minor for the period from

\_\_\_\_\_ August 1, 2017 \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ July 31, 2018 \_\_\_\_\_ inclusive  
(date) (date)

Name of athlete (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth of athlete: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to me/we: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies, medications or other medical conditions of the above athlete:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of mother, father, legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of above: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Home: \_\_\_\_\_

Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

In case the above cannot be reached please contact:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(relationship)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(relationship)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(phone number)

This will be used only in the event that all attempts to contact all the above have been unsuccessful. 2017-2018 School Year

**BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #170**  
**Insurance Statement and**  
**Liability Waiver**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Student's Name – Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Name – Please Print)

I hereby state that my son/daughter is covered by a health, accident, and hospitalization policy with

\_\_\_\_\_ Insurance Company, Policy Number

\_\_\_\_\_ which policy provides insurance coverage for my son/daughter for any injuries resulting from extra-curricular athletic activities, including but not limited to: football, basketball, baseball, track, softball, volleyball, intramurals, flag squad, and cheer/dance practices or games, whether under the direct supervision of professional school personnel or not. I assume responsibility for any injury and any expenses and medical costs that should arise from my son/daughter being injured while participating in any of the above mentioned activities.

I hereby release and fully discharge the Bushnell-Prairie City School District #170 , its agents, employees, and officers from any and all liability for injuries resulting from my son/daughter participating in any of the above mentioned activities.

I, the undersigned, have read this release and understand all its terms. I have executed it voluntarily and with full knowledge of its significance.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Parent/Guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Student)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Grade)

This waiver is in force during the total school year in which it is signed. 2017-2018 School Year

**BPC's Sportsmanship Pledge**

I \_\_\_\_\_ am the parent/guardian of

\_\_\_\_\_. I agree to adhere to improving good

Sportsmanship at all athletic events by following the BPC sportsmanship code.

\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

**BUSHNELL-PRAIRIE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT #170**

**Athletic Handbook Signature Card**

I have received and read a copy of the Athletic Handbook and understand the material therein.

\*\* I also give permission for my child's school picture to be used in publications.

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_